

Denton Profile

Denton is located about 5 miles southeast of Lincoln. It is primarily accessed by W. Denton Road from the east, State Spur 55A (SW 84th Street) from the north, and SW 98th Street from the south, all paved roadways. The land around Denton is dominated by the Haines Branch tributary to Salt Creek and a topography characterized by gently rolling hills. This part of Lancaster County has some of the best native prairie resources in the County. Poor groundwater availability and hilly topography make row-crop farming difficult, making grazing the predominant agricultural use.

Denton is one of the smaller towns in the County with a population relatively unchanged in population since the 2000 Census.

Denton worked with Hanna:Keelan in 1996 to complete a comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance.

Denton finds it challenging to get people involved in their community. They are successful at getting people involved for specific events like annual street dances and fireworks shows and the village has many committees, including a very active Historical Society, but volunteers primarily consist of a small group of people. It's perceived that people who work in Lincoln move to Denton for a sense of privacy, so many people aren't in town during the day and do little socializing with their neighbors. Denton kids attend school in Crete, about 10 miles southwest of town, making it difficult for residents to connect at school. Their "Town Talk" newsletter is a great tool for letting residents know what's happening in Denton.

Denton has successful annual events including a street dance and fireworks show as mentioned above. These events are geared more toward visitors than residents. Denton claims that its fireworks show is the best of the small towns near Lincoln. The town used to have a farmer's market on Sunday mornings, but residents found scheduling conflicts with church and the market no longer operates.

GOALS:

1. Get residents involved in their community by hosting events such as community mixers, block parties, or events in the park like concerts or movies.
2. Create a place for people to get together like a coffee shop similar to "Crete Floral".
3. Find or build a museum for the historical society and their collection of Denton artifacts. The vacant historic grocery store is an existing building that was identified as a potential museum site. The storefront would also make a good photo backdrop for residents and visitors.